
OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

VENEREAL DISEASE.

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ON THE
VENEREAL DISEASE.

WITH AN
ACCOUNT OF CURES
BY
VELNOS' VEGETABLE SYRUP,

PREPARED BY

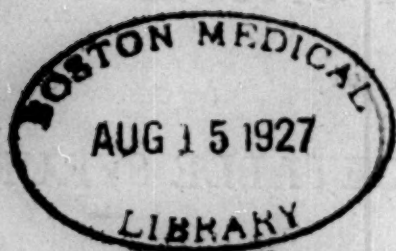
ISAAC SWAINSON,

SOLE PROPRIETOR OF THE GENUINE MEDICINE, AND SUCCESSOR TO
M. DE VELNOS, IN FIRTH-STREET, LONDON.

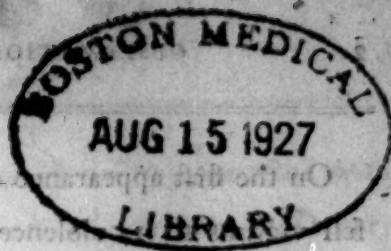
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1791.



1. M. 391



OBSERVATIONS
ON THE
PRESENT PRACTICE
IN THE
VENEREAL DISEASE.

EVERY period has a fashionable object; and that of the present time is *Reform*. Parliament has been menaced, the Church has been alarmed, and Westminster-Hall has shuddered at the word *Reform*! But no Hercules has appeared; and the labours remain.

There exists in private life an evil of extensive and pernicious enormity, which escapes animadversion:—I mean THE PRACTICE OF SURGEONS IN THE VENEREAL DISEASE.

B

On

On the first appearance of this disorder, men soon fell victims to its violence. A mode of treatment now prevails, which produces an immense revenue, furnished by persons who linger out an existence which might have been speedily terminated by the disease, and is rendered wretched and loathsome by the specious arts of a formidable profession.

The fortunes of all medicines in the Venereal Disease, except those of DE VELNOS' VEGETABLE SYRUP, have been changeable. The China Root, Sarsaparilla, Guaiacum, and Sassafras, have triumphed for a time ; but submitted to disgrace.

Mercury, from being employed by the Arabians to destroy vermin, and some foul complaints of the skin, was introduced as a *nostrum* for the Venereal Disease. And it is observable, that all the powerful instruments of the Faculty are the inventions of empirics.

Greater numbers falling sacrifices to the poisonous remedy than to the distemper, Mercury was sunk into disrepute. The faculty have since acquired a dexterity in administering the poison : they suspend by means of it many important functions of the constitution, and therefore suspend the disease. In the
time,

time, some disorder, *not apparently* connected with it, or with Mercury, is induced; such as Impotence, Barrenness, Scrophula, Consumption, Apoplexy, or Palsy: and when the patient perishes, the practitioner escapes infamy or blame.

These facts are peculiarly deserving the attention of those parents, whose affections and hopes are centered at our universities or schools. Besides the shame attending all first offences, the discipline of great institutions is a reason for concealment, and throws unexperienced youth wholly into the power of the crafty practitioner:—The treatment is mysterious; the disease is managed into various and lingering forms; the necessity of secrecy precludes complaint either of delay or expence; and the patient is distressed in his finances, and ruined in his constitution.

The interest I may be supposed to have in discrediting Mercury, and the practice of those who use it, may render my state of facts questionable. But I appeal for its truth to the condition of the youth educated at public institutions in respect to health:—I appeal to those heads of houses, and public professors, who have penetrated the veil that covered

How Mr. L... certainly means to introduce himself as the long wanted for Hercules

this enormity, and countenanced the introduction of a salutary medicine for a mineral that is more baneful than the evil they deplore:—I appeal to the prodigious fortunes made by surgeons at the universities, by means of Mercury, and the rancor or artifice to which they have recourse, in discouraging the use of the Vegetable Syrup:—and I appeal to the following unquestionable authorities:

In the first part of the London Medical Journal for 1786, page 2, Dr. Kirkland affirms, “ That the usual practice of administering Mercury has been as destructive as the disease for which it has been employed: for though it commonly removes the Venereal Virus, it often leaves behind a worse disease, by enervating the whole body, and reducing it to a wretched state of health. Ulcers, which were before curable, are not unfrequently converted into a very sordid, irritable, and incurable state, unless the nerves and fibres can be restored to their proper strength; for though it is possible to cleanse them, and lessen their irritability, yet if Mercury is not laid aside, and the patient’s strength regained, they remain inactive, their edges become hollow, the lips of the fore
“ keep

*Mr. J. certainly
does not recollect
at the time
Mr. R. wrote y.^e
his venerea
was never attempted
to be cured with
salivation with
is now exploded
by the present
helpful tract.*

“ keep dying, and gradually wearing away. I have
 “ not only seen most horrid ulcers, but Dropsies,
 “ Consumptions, and even Death, in consequence of
 “ this mal-treatment.”

The Reader is to observe, this is asserted of the
 general mode of applying Mercury in the year 1786;
 and by a Physician, whose view was not to discredit
 the medicine, but to recommend a new method of
 using it. *In every method* it must have the effects of *almost every*
 poison, in a degree more or less discernible, accord- *ing to the art of the practitioner*
 ing to the art of the practitioner: for every Physi- *cian, and every Surgeon, will say, Mercury is dan-*
 gerous, if not administered with skill;—and that
 skill is to be found *in himself.* *How apt are men to condemn*
in others what they practice in their

The late Publication of Mr. John Hunter was
 expected with anxiety; in hopes it would reflect
 some light on the mysterious management of the
 Venereal Disease.

With the good opinion I have of Mr. Hunter's
 ingenuity, and with the respect and regard which
 my acquaintance with him has inspired, I am obliged
 to affirm, He is so much unacquainted with the dis-
 order, that I am astonished he ever attempts its cure.

This may seem impudent from a man who has
 not

not had a medical education, and who is not even a Quack Doctor. In these circumstances, I believe, I am on a par with Mr. Hunter; and that I acquire my little knowledge, as he has done his greater quantity, by personal enquiry, actual experience, and assiduous application.

Where any information is requisite on the structure and functions of the human body, or where any relief is wanted from the skill of the operator, Mr. Hunter is the first man in the world to whom I would apply, or would recommend to my friends; but after an attentive and repeated perusal of his volume, I only learn he has no method of cure in Venereal Infections, which is not uncertain, hazardous, and may produce more deplorable diseases.

I must here beg leave to observe, that since the appearance of the first edition of this pamphlet, in 1786, I have been abused in various modes, for the sentiments I expressed of Mr. John Hunter; and to the accusation of presumption and insolence, have been added letters menacing personal violence.—It is the common error of the English multitude to confer either odium or applause, with enormous profusion: and it may be easily made to imagine, that young

Astley,

*and that
not with-
reason if
it were for
nothing more
than I's desire
on y^e side*

Atley would perform Lear, Mrs. Siddons Lady Fan-
ciful, or Mr. Pitt dance on a slack rope, beyond all
competition. *Excellent & perfectly new*

Mr. Hunter is a Surgeon and Anatomist of the first eminence ; but he affects to despise the art of Physic ; he has not studied, and does not understand it ; and the cure of the Venereal Disease is one of the most difficult processes of that art.

And yet I can cure it as tho. with a Charm

It is asked, How I should presume to pronounce on these subjects, not having been educated to any branch of the medical profession ?—No more has Mr. Hunter. He was brought up, and, I am credibly informed, actually worked, as a common carpenter. I mention this to the credit and applause of his abilities. But if from such a situation he has been able to raise himself to the first rank of a learned profession :—with a better education ; with more acquaintance with languages ; and, from an easy business, with more leisure to consult authors and pursue enquiries, I surely may acquire equal knowledge of ONE DISEASE, and the operation of medicines on it.

This is my answer to the imputation of impudence. As to menaces of violence from zealous pupils,

pupils, who fear for the *knavery* of the profession, they make finall impresson on me. Those who rail in anonymous letters are always cowards ; and I have reason to be satisfied, that the state of my body and mind are such as *secure me harmless* from the insolence of bullies.

Among the remarkable positions of Mr. Hunter are the following (p. 230.) :—" A Gonorrhœa and

Chancre form the same kind of matter. Mercury has no power in the Gonorrhœa ; it is a specific " in a Chancre, which is truly venereal."— His definition of VENEREAL is, a disease curable by Mercury ;—therefore Gonorrhœa is not venereal.

The fact is, Mercury is not a specific for any symptoms of Venereal Disease. It removes some of them, as executioners remove treason, by cutting off the head of the offender.—I will appeal to Mr. Hunter himself, page 245, " after the chancres have been " cured, and all Venereal taint removed, it happens " the prepuce still retains a tumefaction, &c."— Page 246, " in the time of the cure a new disposition takes place, which prevents the healing of the " parts, and often produces a much worse disease " than that from which it arose."—What man in

his

*Sound Doctrine
can I wish of
dear J. Hunter
with his own
kindly interest
to do
Monday 18
an Digo*

his senses would be cured by such practice? I will forfeit a thousand guineas for every instance of the kind, in the use of Velnos' Syrup; and Mr. Hunter shall send the patients.

The Reader will recollect, I am not animadverting on Mr. Hunter personally, but on the *present practice*; which is most advantageously represented by him.

247. "It often happens, that after the Chancres are healed, and all the Virus gone, the cicatrices ulcerate again, and break out in the form of chancres." This sounds like an Irish fact. Why does it not happen to the Vegetable Syrup? Mr. Hunter would insinuate they are not Venereal, because not so malignant as the first—they are the younger children of the same family, as a slight experiment would prove; and the Vegetable Syrup never suffers any of them to remain.

probably the V.D. never returns again

See Mr. H. p. 2

Mr. Hunter's treatise is an *Apology for Mercury*. But facts escape him which should alarm the public: p. 268, he says, "of a person with a Venereal swelling, he was not at present in a condition to take Mercury; as a sufficient quantity of that medicine for the cure would *kill him*."

Of Buboës, in p. 272, he confesses, there are many cases which Mercury itself cannot cure. In 277, "many Buboës, after every attempt, remain "swelled, without ever coming to resolution or "suppuration—but rather become harder and schirrous."—I should be ashamed to mention the Syrup as a Venereal remedy, if it were thus ineffectual.

In one in 10000 By Mr. Hunter's own confession, p. 280, his treatment induces Cancer and Scrophula. In 311, 12, 13, 14, he relates incidents of the Lues Venera, of successive classes of symptoms, and courses of Mercury; which prove he has *no principles or remedy on which he can depend* in the Venereal Disease. For, 317, "while the parts, first in order of action were "contaminated and under cure, the second in order "are only in a state of contamination, and go on "with the disease afterwards."—Thus a man may be under Mr. Hunter's care for a long life, and be carried to the grave at last by the disease.

He adds, "that parts may be contaminated, and, "not having taken the action, may have the poison "kept dormant in them, while under a course of "Mercury for other symptoms." Velnos' Vegetable
table

table Syrup is rude enough to rouse all those ac-
tions; and is not so complaisant to the interest of
its Proprietor as Mercury to the common surgeons.
It makes but one *job* of those that are asleep and
those that are awake.

*Hy. Proprietor is
fine enough to
call over man
of the Profession
a Lascivious
he does not mean
his Syrup*

With what candor therefore does Mr. Hunter
repeat the common erroneous assertion, That Mer-
cury is a specific for the Venereal Disease? How
dreadful! particularly to parents, professors, tutors,
and others, interested in the fate of youth, to learn
from one of the most experienced practitioners in
England, that, p. 370, "under a mercurial course
"the constitution acquires a disposition, proceeding
"from a venereal and mercurial irritation, which
"differs from the venereal, mercurial, and natural,
"being a fourth disposition arising out of all the
"three; that Mercury is a poison to the new dis-
"position; and that some of the sores formed in
"this way, not only resist *all means* of cure, but of-
"ten inflame, ulcerate, and form a kind of callous
"basis, so as to put on the appearance of a cancer,
"and are often supposed to be really so:—that new
"diseases arise from the *Mercury alone*; that the
"tonsils swell; the periostium and bones thicken;

“ and the parts over them become oedematous and
 “ sore to the touch—and that Mercury probably
 “ produces a worse disease than the Venereal.”—What
 a horrible specific ! what an infernal instrument of
 hazardous relief ! what a condition of ignorance, or
 of knavery, must be that of the profession, which
 offers it as a remedy !

It may seem extraordinary, that a remedy of infinitely greater effect than Mercury in this disease, and without any of its inconveniences, should have been announced in this country, and not adopted in general practice.

There are sufficient reasons for this fact ; some of which may, others cannot be stated. The first connections (for sale only) made here by De Velnos were unfortunate, and even infamous. When the real Medicine was introduced, it was offered with the pomp and pretensions of Quackery.—The ingredients being foreign, the Medicine is to the Proprietor extremely dear. Substitutes were therefore sought, and meanneſſes committed, which varied the powers of the medicine. All these, and some other circumstances, kept the public in suspense, notwithstanding its occasional display of effects ;
 which

*Pray w. is pomp
 & pretension of
 Quackery of this
 Pamphlet is not
 a standard falsehood*

which nothing in the Materia Medica had ever equalled.—How is it otherwise to be accounted for—that in the eight years the Recipe has been in my possession, the sale of the Medicine has been increased beyond even my most sanguine expectation ! The same disposition which induces me to despise the imposition of a *purchased title* of Doctor, makes me scrupulous in preparing the Medicine according to the Recipe.—This has given a certainty to its effects ; has thrown shame and dishonor over those who would insinuate they have obtained or stolen the Recipe ; and induced a confidential dependence on me, as advantageous to the public as it is to myself.

can be certainly contradicted in himself

By which notion can my prove this position

If circumstances had not occurred to depress the just and deserved reputation of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup (which I have been at the utmost pains to remove) it would have been impertinent, after the use of it in this country for twenty years, to affirm that its merit and efficacy are but little known : that in those disorders which originate in scrophulous and scorbutic habits, it is generally effectual ; and that in the Venereal Disease, *it has never failed !*

The reader will see, in the following cases, as well

well as in those of a scorbutic nature, inserted in another pamphlet, this is not the language of interested and artful boasting. For there have been instances of a scrophulous and cancerous nature, in which it has not completed a cure; and Venereal patients have declined the use of Syrup before they were cured. These cases, and the reasons of them, will be as freely recorded as the most complete and effectual cures.

DIRECTIONS

DIRECTIONS
FOR THE USE OF THE
VEGETABLE SYRUP
IN THE
VENEREAL DISEASE.

PATIENTS, at a distance from Mr. Swainson, have been disappointed of a cure by an erroneous method of taking the Medicine.

Finding that the use of it in large doses answered the first purpose of expelling the offending matter, and removing the inflammation, they have continued the large doses ; forced an unnecessary and injurious discharge, and imagined themselves not cured, because something like a gleet remained.

Mr. Swainson will, therefore, render the directions for the use of the Syrup in the various forms of this disease as minute and as plain as possible.

In Gonorrhœa, the Syrup should immediately be taken in doses as large as the bowels of the Patient will

2/9 per dose

*that alone
intensely
cure a venereal
infection*

will bear.—Mr. Swainson has known half a pint and even a pint taken as a dose, to prevent the infection from entering the body—in this case, the body must be kept warm night and day. Barley water, or any other diluting liquor, must be drank plentifully ; and the parts kept clean by bathing or washing them in warm water. The discharge from the urethra will increase until the inflammation is gone. As soon as the inflammation disappears, which is known by the passing of the urine without pain through the urethra, the large doses, and the diluting liquors should be discontinued, and the Syrup taken in doses of two or three table spoonfuls night and morning, for a week or a fortnight, to insure the cure, and to assist the bowels until they assume their natural functions. The patient, in the time, may gradually use himself to the outward air, and take his usual exercise.

In venereal Tumors and Buboës of every kind—the same confinement, the same suspension of exercise, the same warmth, and the same use of the medicine in large doses, is advised, until they subside ; and then, as in a former case, the Syrup is to be taken in small quantities for a month, because the Virus
has

has entered the habit, and it will require some time fully to expel it.

Poultices and fomentations greatly assist in dispersing Buboës; and when they are not used the parts should be kept clean by being frequently bathed or washed in warm water.

When the Lues or Pox has taken place and appears in deep Chancres and fetid Ulcers, the Syrup should be taken in considerable but not very large doses—in general they should consist of five or six table spoonfuls—the body kept warm, the wounds daily cleansed with warm water, and dressed with dry lint, which warm water will moisten and take off without pain.

The Patient must persevere in this mode of treatment until the wounds are perfectly healed. But in all cases so distressing and hazardous as those denominated Lues or the Pox, it would be prudent to consult Mr. Swainson.

CASES.

GONORRHŒA.

IF any argument were necessary to prove that Mercury is not a proper remedy in the Venereal Disease, it would be furnished by its acknowledged inefficacy in Gonorrhœa.

This stage of the disease affords an instance of the art by which the Surgeons have driven the Physicians out of one their of provinces. Mercury not being effectual in Gonorrhœa; Buboës and Ulcers taking place; and the Physicians being obliged to call in assistance; the Surgeons possessed themselves of the practice; as advantageous to their interest in the present way of managing it, as it is injurious to the constitutions of their patients.

It is a maxim with them, as I shall shew from

Mr. Hunter's treatise, that Gonorrhœa is to be left to itself, Mercury being ineffectual; and the proper treatment of that stage of the disease not being in the practice of Surgery which is conversant in wounds and incisions, the patient is amused with mercurial or with bread-pills, according to the humour of the practitioner, until a real occasion arises for the art of the Surgeon.

At this time Mercury is thrown in, and acts as a counter-poison; but the principal dependence of the Surgeon is on the Tumors and Ulcers.

That the Man who builds his frame on this of and then says I should be the most abandoned of men, to reproach the profession with this conduct, if it were not unavoidable; or if, in the use of the Vegetable Syrup, a Gonorrhœa taken in time, ever terminated in Buboes or Chancres.

I consider this as a decisive proof, That Velnos' Vegetable Syrup is, and that Mercury is not, a specific in the Venereal Disease.

Mr. Hunter, in p. 69, says, "As we have no
" specific medicine for Gonorrhœa, it is fortunate
" that time alone will effect a cure. Upon this
" idea of every Gonorrhœa curing itself, I give cer-
" tain patients pills of bread, which were taken with
great

“ great regularity ; the patients always got well,
 “ but some of them I believe not so soon as they
 “ would have done had the artificial methods of cure
 “ been employed.”

I must confess, that cases of simple Gonorrhœa are not so often brought to me as those of a more desperate nature, owing to the prevailing infatuation in favour of Surgery and Mercury ; but when they are brought, they are not left to the chance of curing themselves, or of becoming more profitable disorders. —Many of those who apply in Gonorrhœa have been under the care of Surgeons ; and have been driven to me by the appearance of Tumors and Buboës, and the fear of Caustics, Incisions, and Ulcers. According to Mr. Hunter, if the Surgeons had given them nothing, or given them bread-pills, the patients would not have been poxed. Mercury, therefore, is not only ineffectual in Gonorrhœa, but injurious, and brings on the Lues.

Sometimes the discharge stops on the appearance of Buboës. Mr. Hunter would say the Gonorrhœa was cured ; for, in p. 36, he affirms, “ that a Go-
 “ norrhœa may be cured, while there is Chancre,
 “ and vice versa.”

*I always understood
 when there was no
 discharge there was no
 A gentle Gonorrhœa*

A gentleman was called on business into Ireland; and soon after his arrival, contracted a Gonorrhœa. He applied to an eminent practitioner in Dublin, and in a few weeks was pronounced cured. A yellowish discharge remaining, he was displeased with his Surgeon, who assured him it was only a gleet; and that no Virus could remain, after so long a course of Mercury as he had undergone. He returned to his wife; and the consequences may be better imagined than described, when it was discovered he had Buboës on each groin, and his lady several Chancres. He had never had a Buboë before. They were both put on a course of the Syrup, and in a few weeks perfectly cured.

To what are we to attribute the disappointment and misery of the gentleman above mentioned?

Shall we ascribe it to the folly of the Dublin Surgeon, in not giving him bread-pills? I believe the Venereal Gonorrhœa (for I am obliged to adopt the epithet since the publication of Mr. Hunter's treatise) generally increases in violence if left to itself; and Mr. Hunter's declaration has not convinced me that it will cure itself. Mr. Hunter, on recollecting himself, seems also of this opinion; for he says,

p. 86,

*There is not
a doubt but
that may
be a gonorrhœa
which not
venereal*

p. 86, "whatever methods are used for the cure of
 "the Gonorrhœa, it is always necessary to have in
 "view the probability of some of the matter being
 "absorbed, and afterwards appearing in the form of
 "a *Lues Venerea*. It is therefore going on the surest
 "grounds, always to give Mercury in a Gonorrhœa."

—In another place, he says, "Mercury can be of
 "no use in a Gonorrhœa; nay, it is always injuri-
 "ous."—How are these contradictions to be recon-
 ciled? Are they not the embarrassments of inge-
 nuity in an indefensible cause?

A gentleman applied to me in the case of a favour-
 ite groom, who had contracted a Venereal com-
 plaint; and, through modesty, concealed it until he
 was unable to ride, and could hardly walk. When his
 master discovered his situation, he sent for his Sur-
 geon. A large Buboe had formed in the groin, and
 the surgeon advised his being sent to the Lock Hos-
 pital for salivation; it being impossible, according to
 him, and indeed according to the general doctrine of
 the profession, to repel a Buboe verging on suppura-
 tion. His master being a man of great humanity,
 said, he should not go there till other methods had
 been tried; for he would as soon send him to the
 gallies.

*Elaborately
 even looks
 but on y^e
 side the
 question
 when interest
 has it's share*

*How could I
know this*

gallies. The gentleman mentioned his intention of bringing him to me. At this the Surgeon sneered, and threw out some hints of the inefficacy of the Syrup; tantamount to saying, "you may as well give him Mr. Hunter's bread-pills." Fortunately for the young man, the master disregarded the Surgeon's opinion; and he was put on a course of the Syrup; the Buboe was expelled; and the man in a very short time perfectly cured.

A gentleman lately applied to me, with an Ulcer in the groin. On examining him, things appeared to have been conducted in a manner so unworkman-like, that I enquired who had been his Surgeon. He said, that about six months before, he had contracted a Gonorrhœa; for which he applied to an eminent Surgeon (a person of my acquaintance; I should otherwise have pointed him out as he deserves). The Surgeon told him, it was a slight case, and he would soon be well. He gave him pills, which he supposed, from their weight, to be mercurial. In three weeks, he felt an uneasy sensation in the left groin; and the Gonorrhœa almost disappeared. This Mr. Hunter calls curing a Gonorrhœa;—but Mr. Hunter was not the practitioner in the

the present case. He soon observed a Tumor, the size of a nut, where the sensation had been perceived. On complaining to his Surgeon, he begged him not to be alarmed; that it would soon *go away*; and furnished him with a box of mercurial unguent. In another week, it increased to the size of a hen's egg: the mercurial ointment was continued on the inside of the thighs, and the Buboe appeared stationary for a month; when it was thought advisable to use the lancet. A large incision was made, and the wound daily dressed by the Surgeon for several months; at last, it assumed the appearance of a cancerous ulcer; and it was thought prudent to call in another of the profession. Under their joint efforts, the constitution of the gentleman was nearly ruined, and his life endangered. Not being willing, however, to be responsible for the catastrophe, they recommended him to me; and, in the use of the Vegetable Syrup, he soon obtained a complete cure. I could not have had the effrontery to shew my face, if I had ever treated a man in that manner.

As I have already observed, it is the general object of Surgery to produce Tumors and Buboes, and to give occasion for incisions and dressings:—

E

hence

*I never such
a thing did
happened
has stayed
from his pretended regard to
the Public because he knew
was acquainted
with Surgeon
he means of
he means any*

hence the doctrine of the inefficacy of medicines in Gonorrhœa, and the constant practice of converting Buboes into wounds and ulcers. I have had upwards of five hundred persons, with Tumors and Buboes, to whom my attention has been directed, in a short period of time. I had one instance only, where the Syrup did not expel the glandular swelling; and in that, suppuration had taken place before the patient applied to me. I advised him to let it take its course; and it burst in a few days. A poultice was applied; it was afterwards dressed with dry lint; and, in five or six days, it was perfectly healed. He continued the use of the Syrup about a fortnight, and received a radical cure.

LUES

LUES VENEREA;

OR,

THE POX.

IN this stage of the disease, the poison is absorbed into the habit, and the life of the patient endangered. Here even the Surgeon is obliged to lay down his knife, and have recourse to medicine.

Why the Mineral has been preferred to the Vegetable kingdom, and why poisons take place of salutary medicines, I have already shewn. The progress of the disease, particularly if it be acquired by contamination, may be suspended or stopped by a poison; a general debility and ill health will however ensue, more deplorable than the original evil; but—a source of permanent advantage to the practitioner. This we have seen to be the case, from the use of Mercury in the Venereal Disease, by the confession of its ablest advocates.

Mercury being ineffectual in Gonorrhœa, and the Syrup of De Velnos always and speedily curing it,

*By Mr. S's
continual use
of the Surgeon's
knife I
suppose
he means to
make deeper
wounds y^t
modern Surgeons
cut away the
parts infected
Pierced*

the Surgeons would shelter their practice, by declaring, "Gonorrhœa will cure itself." ✓

In Tumors and Buboes, the pretended utility of the lancet, and the parade of dressings, will give them some colourable claim for employment with the ignorant and credulous ; but in the Lues Venerea, it is wonderful Physicians are not called in, who would, in general, treat their patients with more humanity.

As the progress of the Vegetable Syrup unveils the arts of the profession, I perceive, the great hope of those swarms of Surgeons, with which the land is infested, is the Venereal Disease.

Though *many of them* have been obliged to me for a cure, when the hopes of their own lives were gone, though every patient they have sent me for experiment has been returned well, they all maintain one of these absurdities, according as they suit their convenience, That the Syrup contains Mercury ; or, That the disease it cures is not Venereal.

—I am sensible it would be adding insult to argument, to require them to analyse the Syrup ; not from the difficulty of the operation (for nothing can be easier), but from their ignorance of Chemistry.

In

*Ignorance
Self Conceit
Ingratitude
Scurvy*

In trying the various imitations of the genuine Syrup, by Burrows, Hodson, Baylis, &c. I have never failed to exhibit the Mercury, by simple evaporation, under a glass or metal cup. But Dr. Fordyce, Dr. Higgins, or Mr. Godfrey, would teach any man, in a short time, to overwhelm me with shame, and ruin my fortune, if, after the professions I have made, I could be so unprincipled as to use Mercury. Almost every Chemist in the profession; and, what is more important, the most eminent Chemists in England, out of the profession, have analysed the Syrup with their utmost art;—and the consequence may be depended on; for they have put their tenderest connexions on the use of it.

But there must be folly, as well as knavery, in the pretence, That the Syrup of De Velnos contains Mercury; for it has been principally employed, since its discovery, in cases where Mercury, administered by the utmost skill of the faculty, has been ineffectual or injurious. Hardly a week passes, without a case being sent to me from an eminent Surgeon; which I deem a Lues Venerea; which it is now the fashion to call a mercurial disease (vide Hunter's

Huuter's treatise), but which is, however, pronounced incurable by medicine.

The Surgeons have the effrontery to say the Venereal Virus is expelled; sheltering themselves in the difficulty of proving its existence by infection, as the patients are too loathsome to be approached. They send them into the country; advise bark and milk diet. A few have the humanity to direct them into Frith-street; but, in general, they retire out of hearing, and perish.

It may be thought sufficient to my advantage and credit, that those who are sent into Frith-street are relieved; and that I need not dispute its being the Lues Venerea, or the Mercurial Leprosy and Cancer. There is more utility in truth than we are always aware of. The officious zeal of some eminent Surgeons, to assign me this loathsome disorder, and to reserve for themselves the Lues Venerea, in an earlier state, was one of the circumstances that edged my curiosity. I therefore advertised (as the reader may have observed) for patients in the Lues Venerea, who had never used Mercury. An advertisement is the key to almost all information in this

town :

town: and the reader would be astonished, and even terrified, for the situation of his fellow-creatures, if he were to be informed of the objects which presented themselves.

After having related the effects of the Syrup in Gonorrhœa, inveterate Chancres, and Buboës, it would not be saying too much that it always succeeds in the Lues Venerea. The remarkable circumstance is, that the cure is effected in a shorter time, and in a more effectual manner, where Mercury has not, than where it has been used. Whether the Mercury has induced a disease, or whether the Mineral itself is a poison, it always creates a difficulty in the cure.

In the preparation and sale of a Medicine, the only effectual one that I know of, in all stages of the Venereal Disease, I avoid all the artifices of regular or irregular quackery. In the accounts I give, and the cases I state, I confine myself *very far within* the limits of facts; and I trust, there are as many persons of learning, rank, and character, in this country, who will vouch for my veracity and integrity, as for those of any Surgeon or Physician in it.

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It is necessary, however, to observe, that every man applying in Frith-street, either in Venereal or Scorbutic cases, is not cured.

In Scorbutic disorders, the Syrup generally succeeds, if persevered in with attention and care. In Venereal cases, *it has never failed*, but through the fault of the patient, or of his Surgeon; and that kind of fault has frequently occurred.

A gentleman applied to me, in what he called a slight state of the disorder. Mr. Hunter, whom he had previously consulted, would not take upon him to say whether it was Venereal or not. His throat had Ulcers; and I thought they had all the appearance of Venereal Ulcers; though I did not alarm him. By taking a few bottles of the Syrup, the throat was healed; and a rash was thrown out all over his body. I saw no more of the gentleman; but I heard, that he and his friends abused me, with great acrimony, *for increasing* (instead of curing) a disorder, which I had, in fact, nearly removed; for an eruption on the body is a general effect of the Syrup in that state of the disease. I was informed, he went to an eminent Surgeon, and told his condition, and the means he had used. “Ay,” said the Surgeon,

Surgeon, " the Syrup had not Mercury *enough* for " your case ;" and he poured in Mercury. The gentleman was immediately cured, (as he would have been without the Surgeon), and the Syrup was blamed for not enlightening the gentleman's understanding, as well as curing his disease.

SUBSEQUENT OBSERVATIONS.

I THINK necessary here to add, That since the first publication of this pamphlet, strong efforts have been made by some members of the Faculty to resist the progress of the Vegetable Syrup.

Cases, which would be nearly incredible in the description, have forced the Medicine into the University of Cambridge ; and, while it interested the scientific curiosity, and engaged the zealous recommendation of many of the most learned and respectable of its Professors, it impressed confusion and dis-

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may on the trading and illiberal part of the Medical Profession.

On the first astonishment, occasioned by cures appearing like revival from death, the Surgeons exclaimed, "The Medicine was a powerful and peculiar preparation of Mercury."—Delicate children, and young ladies of tender constitutions, being put on courses of it, and persons of the first rank and knowledge in the University being deeply interested in their fate, the Syrup was analysed by an eminent Professor; and, on its being declared Vegetable, the Surgeons shifted their ground, and insisted it must be of no use or efficacy; though the cures it daily performed were confounding their senses and disturbing their peace.

A conduct so truly contemptible, induced the Professor to introduce the subject in his Lectures to the Students; and warmly to recommend the Medicine as very efficacious and wholly Vegetable.

Licensed Quackery, and interested inhumanity, have hereby received a mortal blow at Cambridge.

Oxford cannot long fail of the humane information; and the depredations of Mercury on the very
sources

sources of life, in the first families of the country, will be checked and prevented.

In London, the same order of practitioners adopted the same contradictory language. Though the Medicine was publicly analysed by the command of the King of France, on its first appearance, and the result made known in all the publications by Mr. De Velnos, Dr. Mercier, and myself; though most of the Chemists of London had tortured it in every way, to satisfy their friends, or with hopes to injure the Proprietors; and, though it always appeared Vegetable, and cured cases where Mercury was poison, yet, when credulous and opulent patients were to be deterred from Frith-street, "The Syrup contained Mercury." Among persons of this description, Dr. George Fordyce, an advertising Lecturer in Chemistry, had been often pointed out to me; but I could not induce pupils publicly to attest what they heard at his Lectures. I was desired to see a dying child of Mr. Forsyth, of Kensington, which Dr. Fordyce had attended; and the father, in relating the melancholy occurrences of the illness, said he had proposed to the Doctor that

the Vegetable Syrup should be tried ; and that he had objected, because it contained Mercury.

I seized the occasion, and sent the following proposal to Fordyce :

To deposit an hundred pounds at a Banker's, to be forfeited to him, on his exhibiting Mercury in any Syrup prepared in Frith-street, before competent chemical judges, to be appointed by him and me.

I refer to Philosophers and Chemists, whose abilities he *must not* openly question, who had analysed the Syrup, and who should meet him on the trial ; and engaged, when the parcel of Syrup sent to him had passed the ordeal, to cure with it any Venereal case he should produce.

This literary Bobadil received the proposal with the silence of conscious guilt, and submitted to the imputation which I assured him should be affixed to his name. As he has announced a *Treatise on the Digestion of Food*, I have some thoughts of writing an appendix to it *on the digestion of convicted falsehood*. This would be of much greater use than his vague experiments, following those of the accu-

rate

I wish Mr. W.D. prepare

some medicine

which w.d. helps

the digestion of

his own nonsensical writings

rate and penetrating Spalanzani — at a time when not only our nobility and gentry, but our very fwindlers and thieves, are brought into danger by duels.

I was more fortunate in another contest ; for the offender had the indiscretion to commit his assertion to the press.

A contest with Mr. Philip Thickness, at Bath, induced Dr. James Mackittrick Adair to write what I suppose he thinks a Satire on Quacks and Nof-trums ; and, being desirous to make the utmost of his subject, he injuriously mentions the Vegetable Syrup of De Velnos. This occasioned the publication of the following Paper.

W A R S
O F
REGULARS AND QUACKS.

IN theology these wars produced the Reformation. The regulars were defeated, and the quacks became regulars. The ecclesiastical quacks, from Bishop Hooper down to Dr. Priestley and Dr. Price, have continued their efforts for a change of spiritual regimen and medicine ; and in all the fluctuations of these contentions, the majority of impartial and disinterested people have deemed the quacks often in the right.

In phyfic, all changes of medical impositions have been forced on the regulars by the quacks ; and all the great and powerful medicines are the discoveries of quacks. The introduction and improvements of inoculation ;

inoculation ; the use of mercury, antimony, opium, and the bark, like all the bold innovations in religion and policy, are owing to quacks. Benefits produce the bitterest ingratitude. The regulars adopted the discoveries, and persecuted their benefactors.

In the administration of remedies, there is this difference between the regulars and irregulars—The latter always attempt a cure, sometimes desperately; the former perpetuate diseases, to perpetuate a profitable attendance. This is the general fact, to which there are honourable exceptions.

In one of the skirmishes of these vindictive bodies, I have been lately included, though I belong to neither. I bought the property of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, as I would a brew-house ; and I prepare the Syrup, as a brewer prepares porter, by a recipe peculiar to the house, and known in no other. Cases are recorded with such testimonies as would establish the fortunes of twenty physicians; but I assume none of the pretensions, and perform none of the acts of a Doctor ; for out of twenty thousand bottles a-year, which is my average sale, two thirds are ordered, directly or indirectly, by the Faculty.

Mr.

Mr. James Mackittrick Adair, who says he has formerly been M. D. to assert the right of the Faculty to a monopoly of medical crimes, has renewed this dishonourable war; and has rummaged the filthiest recesses of Billingsgate and St. Giles, for the means of annoying the enemy. Being actuated by that malignity, which is ever found in the low and unsuccessful of every order, truths and calumnies are exhaled indiscriminately by him on the innocent and guilty.

Of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, he affirms, "It is not vended by patent, but is found, on analysis, to be a preparation of sublimate mercury, combined with mucilage of gum arabic, honey, and common syrup."

No falsehood can be more complete, as the Syrup contains not one of the articles; and a man must be as ignorant of chemistry, and as destitute of principle, as Mr. Mackittrick Adair, to hazard the assertion. Perceiving, however, that his conscience was at liberty, and not standing in awe of the learning and abilities he (I believe alone) attributes to himself, I had the curiosity to know how he would

cover

cover one falsehood by another ; and I sent him the following Letter, which produced an Answer fully according with my expectation :

“ Frith-street, Sept. 15, 1790.

“ SIR,

“ IN a book written by you, a gentleman lately pointed out to me a paragraph respecting the Vegetable Syrup of De Velnos, which might otherwise never have fallen under my notice.

“ You assert, that Velnos’ Vegetable Syrup has been analysed, and found to be a solution of sublimated, rubbed up with honey and mucilage of gum arabic.

“ If you mean, by Velnos’ Vegetable Syrup, the medicine prepared in Frith-street, by De Velnos, Dr. Mercier, and myself, you directly call me an impostor.

“ If you mean the imitations and pretended improvements of it, you are inaccurate ; and your assertion amounts to nothing.

“ As the paragraph is a kind of injury, which no gentleman would commit without reason, may I beg you will assign that reason ?

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“ To

“ To encourage your ingenuity, and to indemnify you for time, I will deposit a hundred pounds. You shall go through the analysis on which you found your assertion : if you produce mercury from the Vegetable Syrup, prepared by me, in the presence of six competent judges, three appointed by you, and three by me, the hundred pounds shall be yours ; and I will wear the name of Impostor—If not, I will take up my money, require no indemnity from you ; but I will publish the result, and leave you to the reflections of your own mind.

“ I am, Sir, your very humble servant,

“ I. SWAINSON.

“ To Dr. Mackittrick Adair,
Devonshire-street.”

DR. ADAIR'S ANSWER.

“ HAD Dr. Adair read the latter part of a letter, signed I. Swainson, before he gave the bearer a kind of promise that he would answer it, he certainly should not have put pen to paper on the occasion.

“ If A. recollects right, the Syrup was some years ago sold by one Burrows, and that probably was what was deemed to contain Mercury :
what.

what the preparation which Mr. Swainson claims may be, A. neither knows nor cares ; nor shall he give himself the trouble to analyse it.

“ He has been pelted with so many anonymous attacks from the empirical gentry, that he has formed a resolution not to answer any letters from that quarter, even if avowed, except in a future edition of his Essay.

“ A. hopes, for the credit of the profession from which he has retired, that Mr. S. is not a medical man ; as he deems all concealment of medical compositions to be, in them, criminal ; and in others, at least illiberal, and inconsistent with the dictates of humanity.”

THE reader will, I hope, just notice and smile with me at the cowardly evasions of convicted falsehood. In the farrago he calls his Book, Mr. Mackittrick Adair asserts an untruth on the pretended authority of analysis. In his Letter he skulks under the phrase, “ the Syrup was *deemed* to contain Mercury.” In the Book, he says (and for once truly), that Velnos’ Vegetable Syrup is not sold by Patent. When called upon to account for his cal-

lummy, he attempts an evasion, by substituting that of Burrows, which, unfortunately for his pretensions to information and veracity, was sold by Patent, with the addition of the word Improved, to avoid the prosecution of De Velnos, for using his name in an imposition. That he could not mean the spurious Syrup of Burrows, must be indisputable, because Burrows was dead when he inserted the calumny in his Book; and Burrows always denied that he had communicated his wretched Recipe to Hodson.

Mr. Mackittrick Adair says, that if in any one instance respecting nostrums he were guilty of misrepresentation, he would deem himself an EXECRABLE VILLAIN. I doubt his justice in adjudging himself: but, after the above relation, the public will save him the trouble.

That the opinion of Mr. Mackittrick Adair is of as little consequence to me as that of the vociferous Bellows-mender, will be easily credited, while it is generally known that the Vegetable Syrup is ordered by the first Physicians and Surgeons of this country, in cases of the utmost difficulty and importance; that the best philosophical and practical Chemists of the age,

*Why does he
not mention
some minor
Physicians who
have ordered it*

age, are among its warmest advocates; and that it has preserved the lives and benefited the families of philosophers and literati, with whose names posterity will never associate the name of Mackittrick Adair. But as every falsehood may alarm and distress constitutions rendered irritable by disease, and death has sometimes been the speedy consequence of the clamorous solicitude of attending regulars, to prevent the introduction of the medicine, I shall be excused for looking into the balderdash, and repelling the malignant falsehood of Mr. Mackittrick Adair.

ISAAC SWAINSON.

Frith-street, Sept. 23, 1790.

WHEN this account of a wanton and unprovoked injury had appeared in the papers, Dr. Mackittrick Adair came, accompanied by Captain Crookshanks, into the shop of Mr. Ridgway, a bookseller, who publishes both for him and me; and said, I suppose with a view that Mr. Ridgway should repeat to me, that he had been mistaken; that the Syrup brought to him, and which he had analysed, was that of Hodson; that he meant me no harm; and that he believed my medicine the best of any out of the Pharmacopeia.

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But the reader will perceive this is no satisfaction: the imputation remains in his printed book, and against Velnos' Vegetable Syrup; of the Recipe for which, by the Affidavits and Deeds of Mr. and Madame de Velnos, and of Dr. Mercier, I am the sole Proprietor and Possessor.

Until, therefore, the imputation is cancelled, and Dr. Mackittrick Adair has the manly candour to retract his error, I shall circulate our correspondence.

N. B. I take the liberty of mentioning Captain Crookshanks as accompanying Dr. M. Adair; not as a party, but as a peace-maker; and I declare, that if any thing less than a public reparation of the injury could have satisfied me, it would have been the interposition of so venerable, so respectable, and so honest a man.

The following interesting Article is copied from the Ladies' Library, a periodical Publication, the Medical Part of which has been executed by the ingenious and learned Dr. Buchan, Author of Domestic Medicine, &c. and his candor may properly be contrasted with the low illiberality of Fordyce and Adair.

WE have thus detailed the common opinion, and pointed out the usual treatment in cases of Scurvy.

But the introduction of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup into general use, and the persevering efforts and great ingenuity of Mr. Swainson, its present proprietor, have rendered the opinions of this gentleman concerning Scrophula and Scurvy very prevalent, which we shall state from his various and excellent publications.

From the attention of many years to these particular diseases, he does not seem to think that Scrophula and Scurvy are hereditary; but that persons of delicate habits and fine skins are more liable to them

them than those of strong texture and dark complexions. These constitutions being hereditary, the diseases have that appearance.

He refers their origin to obstruction in the necessary secretions, and particularly in perspiration. This may be occasioned by cold, by moisture, by blows, and by numerous other causes, closing the mouths of the excretory vessels, and repelling into the lymphatic system the matter which should have been discharged. This soon becoming morbid, occasions that general weakness, and that emaciated appearance, which are the known symptoms of Scurvy in weakly children and in delicate young women.

In proportion to the injury of the lymph, the evil symptoms appear. When it seizes the glands of the neck, under the arms, in the groin, &c. &c. it produces tumors; and if these break into inveterate ulcers, with scurfy appendages, it assumes the form of Scrophula. If it fixes on the glands of the lungs, an inflammation of the lobes takes place, terminating in a Consumption. Indeed, he strenuously maintains the opinion on which, it is said, the late Sir Richard Jebb proceeded in the case of his Royal Highness

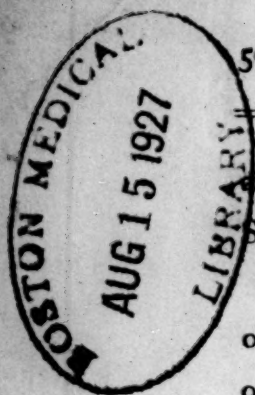
Highness the Duke of Gloucester, and to which his practice afterwards owed its success and reputation—that consumption is always the consequence of the scorbutic state of the lymph; and that even the slightest coughs arise from inhaling moist or bad air, which checks the excretions in the region of the lungs, and lodges some offending matter, which he calls scorbutic. This is a doctrine of great importance in this country; and though Mr. Swainson has maintained it, with a view to the use of the Vegetable Syrup, we think his arguments very fair, and his cases indisputable.

He goes even farther, and asserts, on the authority of well-attested cases, that the green sickness, the obstructions of the menses, and the fluor albus or whites, are all scorbutic symptoms: and he avers, with great appearance of honour and truth, that the Syrup taken in time, properly, and in sufficient quantities, never fails of removing them.

We shall not follow him in his enumeration of the effects of diseased lymph in producing gout, rheumatism, palsy, apoplexy, &c. but only add, that when these dreadful diseases are owing to the cause he describes, it is very probable that a powerful assist-

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ance and relief may be obtained in the Vegetable Syrup.

The only difficulty occurring to us, in the effects of this medicine, which are the subjects of praise or of controversy at this time through the kingdom, is its assured infallibility, according to a respectable list of cases given by Mr. Swainson, in the Venereal Disease.

The regulars here attack him, and affirm that in these cases he uses mercury: his mode of refuting this charge, we think very able. The Vegetable Syrup cures diseases by opening the excretory vessels, and purifying the lymph. It is thus it cures a consumption at the root; takes away the sources of scorbutic appearances, scrophulous ulcers, and removes the obstructions which interrupt the menses, and bring on fluor albus, or the whites.

The venereal virus occasions no evil as a disease, until it enters the lymphatic system, and produces buboes, ulcers, and the lues. This, we suppose, Mr. Swainson considers as a species of scrophula by inoculation; and the Syrup correcting the lymph, and expelling this, like any other morbid matter by the excretories, cures the venereal disease, on the same principle it cures the scrophula.

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This is a simple and beautiful theory : we hope, indeed we are inclined to believe, from compassion to our fellow creatures, that Mr. Swainson will be able fully to convince the world of its truth, by the continuance of his present uncommon success.

That mercury is a specific for the venereal poison, is now an opinion only for a bigotted old woman. We have no doubt, from the known effects of the refinous woods, and aromatic feeds, that a man like Mr. Swainson, having a moderate knowledge of chemistry, and applying his whole time to suit proper menstrua to the extraction of their virtues, may produce a vegetable preparation as powerful as mercury, and yet having none of its inconvenient and fatal effects. We wish, therefore, either that government would make it Mr. Swainson's interest to disclose the recipe, and his manner of executing it; for the Syrup is much improved in his hands ; or that the faculty, instead of descending to illiberal cavils, and subjecting themselves to the public conviction of falsehood, would always prescribe the Vegetable Syrup, whenever they want the assistance of the decoction of the woods or any alterative medicines; for in the hands of the common apothecaries

and chemists, the decoction of the woods is not better than a decoction of deal chips ; and all the vegetable prescriptions of our physicians called alterative, are ineffectual, from the slovenly, careless, and hasty manner of preparing them.

We are informed that the whole process in the preparation of the Vegetable Syrup by Mr. Swainson takes a month. This does not look like the conduct of an impostor ; nor would the fiftieth part of the trouble be necessary to prepare a vehicle for mercury.

ATTESTED

ATTESTED CASES.

CASE I.

LUES VENEREA.

VENEREAL cafes in general, are cured in a fecret manner ; and it is difficult to induce perfons of rank and fortune to attest them. The gentleman who gives authenticity to the following cafe, befides being a member of parliament in Ireland, and holding an office of credit and confequence, is intimately known and highly refpected by the principal nobility and gentry of England, for the excellence of his character and liberality of his manners.

Mark Byrne, of Duke-ftreet, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, was dreadfully afflicted with the Venereal Difafe, more than fix years ; and had been in feveral

ral hospitals, from which he was discharged as incurable.

The effects of the disorder are almost too dreadful to relate. The calf of one of his legs was wholly consumed; the roof of the mouth, and the bones of the nose, were nearly eaten out. The discharge from the eyes, and through the roof into the mouth was so great and offensive, that the little appetite he had was of little use, as it was difficult to prevent the matter from accompanying the food.

In these deplorable circumstances he engaged the attention of Edward Tighe, Esq. member for Wicklow, who had himself experienced the good effects of the Syrup in a scorbutic case, which had baffled the medical skill both of England and Ireland. With that generosity and humanity which distinguish his character, he took the poor man under his protection, and furnished him with the Syrup at his expence. He took it in considerable quantities for eight weeks; and was not only perfectly cured, but grew fat and strong. This was in the year 1785; and communicated by Mr. Tighe to Mr. Swainson,

CASE

CASE II.

SIR,

GRATITUDE for benefit received by your Specific, known under the name of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, is my only motive for thus addressing and laying my case before you, as well as with a desire that the afflicted may, from the knowledge of its virtues, hope for the cure of their disorders. Some time ago, and in consequence of a certain disorder, complicated with the scurvy, being in a despairing condition, it being proof against all the art of the faculty, a friend of mine, who had been cured of a most inveterate scurvy by the use of your Syrup, advised me to take the same; which I did to the quantity of four bottles: at the end of which I found myself radically cured; and now can assure you, that I
enjoy

enjoy as perfect a state of health as before my complaint.

I am, Sir,
With gratitude and respect,
Your much obliged humble servant,

PAUL MARTIN.

Coachman to Henry Carver, Esq. of Birmingham.

Witness to Paul Martin's declaration.

P. F. Bourgeois, merchant ; Thomas Warren, printer, Birmingham.

CASE

C A S E III.

MRS. L—, of Birmingham, was put on a course of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, in May, 1785, for a Venereal complaint of long continuance; for which she had been under the care of several Surgeons of eminence at Birmingham, without any apparent benefit. She had many Venereal Ulcers on the body, and a caries of the shin-bone; which was pronounced incurable without amputation.

The situation of this patient was so peculiar, that it was an inducement to Mr. Swainson to go down to Birmingham. He was accompanied by two gentlemen, who paid particular attention to this extraordinary case; and were not a little astonished, that, in two months, from circumstances of the utmost despondency and danger, she should be restored to perfect health.

A certificate of this cure, and many of a similar kind, may be had of Messrs. Pearson and Rollason, printers, in Birmingham.

C A S E IV.

MARY WILSON, late in the parish of St Botolph, Bishopsgate, about twenty-two years of age, laboured under a combination of some of the most obstinate Venereal symptoms. The injury had been received some years, and she had long been afflicted with the most excruciating pains, running sores in many parts of her body, chancres upon the labiæ, and a node of the size of a pigeon's egg, excessively painful, on one of her legs. She was of a scorbutic habit, and this, complicated with the Venereal Disease, had so emaciated her body, that even an attempt to effect the cure by the common method must have been attended with the most fatal consequences; but by taking Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, and observing a strict regimen, every

every symptom of her complaint was removed ; she was perfectly cured, and in three weeks recovered her former strength.

Witness to the cure,—Mary Walker, mistress of the work-house of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate.

CASE V.

MRS. FLEMING, a married woman, thirty years of age, had her breast drawn about five years ago. A month afterwards she had violent pains in her breast, and observed a small hole on one side of the nipple; the pains gradually reached the head, so that the motion even of a coach was excruciating; the shin-bones were so affected, that she could not bear a stocking or the bed-cloaths on them. In this state she applied to the late Doctor Hunter, who supposed the case to be Venereal; but, on strictly examining her and her husband, gave up his opinion; ordered blisters to her head, with some other applications, with little effect. She continued in this miserable condition some time; when her body being covered with eruptions, the nature of her disease became

became apparent, and the symptoms of it discovered themselves on the husband ; they were therefore, in the spring of 1780, put upon a course of mercurials by a surgeon of character and skill. Though the evil was traced to its source, and it was discovered, beyond a doubt, that her breast had been drawn by an infected woman ; yet, anxiety of mind, the malignity of the disorder, and the baneful effects of mercurials, soon put an end to the life of her husband. The disease continued to encroach on her constitution, in spite of the endeavours of the surgeon ; and when it made its appearance in the throat and mouth, she thought it her duty to procure other assistance. When she applied in Frith-street, Mr. Swainson was shocked at her appearance. The tonsils, the uvula, and many of the surrounding parts were nearly consumed, and the spine was laid entirely bare. Two ulcers in the roof of the mouth had made their way through the palate, so that the liquids she attempted to swallow gushed out at her nose. Her constitution was injured almost as much by the mercury as by the disease ; her appetite was nearly gone, her countenance pale, and her appearance cadaverous and shocking. She was immediately

ately furnished with the Vegetable Syrup of Mr. de Velnos, and in ten weeks the ulcers were healed, the holes in the palate grown up, and she left off the medicine. She is now become fat, and her complexion fine and ruddy.

Mr. Swainson will refer any inquirer immediately to the patient, as well as to several persons of fortune and character, who interested themselves in her fate, and were witnesses of the cure. A surgeon of the first eminence examined her, at Mr. Swainson's request, and he is ready to bear testimony of these facts.

FEBRUARY, 1785.

CASE

C A S E VI.

MR. N. formerly of the parish of Maplebeck, in the county of Nottingham, mariner, had for fifteen years laboured under the scurvy, complicated with the Venereal Disease. He acquired the former in his youth, by the almost constant use of salt provisions at sea; and contracted the latter when about twenty years of age. Time had increased the symptoms to so violent a degree, that even life itself was become a burden. He had continual running sores in both his legs, a fistula in perineo, so that he voided as much water through the wound as by the urethra. In this deplorable condition he began a course of Syrup, which in two months removed all his complaints, and in less than four he was radically cured; and has enjoyed a better state of health since, than he ever could remember in any one period of his life.

CASE

CASE VII.

SIR,

THE extraordinary cure I have lately received by a course of your Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, binds me in gratitude to make known to the public the wonderful effects of that most salutary remedy. At the time I began the Syrup, I was afflicted with the most melancholy and severe Venereal symptoms that could possibly be : ulcerations of the worst nature in the throat and palate ; almost all I drank came through the nose, the bones of which were considerably affected. I had constant excruciating pains in all my limbs, one of my knees was ankylosed, the ancles as well as the shin-bones were considerably enlarged. I had been salivated in the Lock Hospital ; since which I have been under the hands of
many

many of the faculty, and of the first consequence in their profession. Tired of life, and sunk in despair, I was advised to take your Syrup by a person who had received a cure in a similar case. I am now in perfect health, radically cured of all my disorders, and a living witness of the great efficacy of the original Vegetable Syrup. In gratitude for benefits received, I request my case may be published, and am thankfully, Sir,

Your ever obliged humble servant,

GEORGE OLIVER.

Long Acre, Nov. 16, 1779.

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CASE

C A S E VIII.

CHARLES Hulet, plaisterer, near the King David, Mile-Hill, Bristol, had the Venereal Disease in 1783; for which he submitted to a mercurial course; the symptoms disappeared, and he was pronounced perfectly cured. In a few months swellings appeared in his neck and in each groin; and an excruciating pain near the extremity of the spine rendered him unable to walk. Contractions of the limbs and pains in the head deprived him of sleep; and by loss of appetite he became emaciated and wretched. In this condition he applied for Velnos' Vegetable Syrup. He was examined by a Surgeon of eminence at Bristol, according to the general desire of the proprietor (Mr. Swainson) to those who recommend the Medicine. He was put on a course of the Syrup, and in six weeks perfectly cured.

A certificate of the cure may be seen, and farther information obtained, by applying to Mr. Pine, printer, at Bristol.

CASE

C A S E IX.

A SCHIRROUS TESTICLE.

To Mr. SWAINSON.

SIR,

IN January 1778, while at New York, I had a cold and sore throat for three weeks, and my left testicle was prodigiously enlarged and softened. For what reason I cannot guess, the disorder passed to the right; which continued three months in a familiar state, but by degrees grew hard. I came to England in May, but did not apply for assistance till August, when a Surgeon at Kingston upon Thames advised the suspension of it in a truss. I adopted this method for a year and a half; but it became so painful, and was attended with such a general loss of health, that I had recourse to one of the most eminent and humane Surgeons in London,

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who

who pronounced it a schirrous case, and advised the extraction of it as the only means of recovering my health; hinting it as his opinion, that it had arisen from some unfortunate female connection. This I knew, could not be the case. I determined not to submit to the dangerous operation he proposed; and he ordered me gentle physic, and camphorated spirits as an embrocation. After using the latter two months without relief, I applied, by his advice, a poultice of linseed meal, &c. for three more: but having no prospect of a cure, I began to sink under the most melancholy despair. On applying a poultice of bread and milk for some months, it broke; and there issued a thin watery matter of a dusky colour, which every day grew thicker and more offensive. I was then persuaded to consult a physician, who is now abroad; he ordered extract of hemlock and camomile. These dreadful medicines, after long trial, afforded me no relief, and tended only to confirm the despair under which I must have sunk, if I had not heard of the astonishing effect of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup in recovering Mrs. Swainson of a palsy, occasioned by a scorbutic habit; and your determination in consequence to purchase the Recipe;

and

and to add the sanction of your character for judgment and integrity to its other recommendations to the notice and relief of your fellow-creatures.

The state of the scrotum, and the enormous size and condition of the right testicle, you might better describe than I can. The inflammation, which had reached the abdomen, was very alarming, and threatened a mortification. I was bled, and took two doses of physic by your direction: I then took the Syrup, which in a few days totally removed the inflammation. The second bottle produced a copious discharge of matter; the swelling decreased; and it is impossible to express what I felt at the prospect which I had lost for five years, that my health and spirits would return. Before I had taken the fifth bottle my wounds were healed, and the diseased part restored to a state of perfect soundness and health. I took two bottles more, by way of security: and having been recovered from a state of misery, wretchedness, and despair, by means of your Syrup, I think it my duty to thank you for the attention you paid me, and to intreat you will communicate my case to the world, that others in similar circumstances may experience the surprising virtues of the Syrup,

Syrup, and enjoy the relief and happiness which it has brought to me.

I shall take the greatest pleasure in answering the inquiries of any person you may refer to me.

I am, Sir,

With gratitude and respect,

Your much obliged, and

Most obedient humble servant,

FEB. 5, 1784.

ELLIS PRICE.

No. 48, Maiden-lane, Covent-Garden.

Attested by Thomas Mainwaring, apothecary, Strand; and William Naylor, apothecary, Bedford-street, Covent-Garden.

CASE

C A S E X.

To Mr. SWAINSON, Frith-street, Soho.

SIR,

PERMIT me to return you my most grateful thanks for your kind, disinterested, and generous behaviour ; for to that and to your Medicine am I indebted for my life, and all the blessings I may hereafter enjoy : and as one of the numberless persons who have been snatched from the very jaws of death by that Medicine, I should merit in the highest degree the reproach and censure of my fellow-christians was I to withhold the publication of this most extraordinary cure. I shall briefly state the circumstances of my cure, that others afflicted and labouring as I did, hopeless and forlorn, may at a certainty know where to find relief.—In March 1785, I caught a Venereal Infection, which being injudiciously treated,

treated, became under that treatment an obstinate and dangerous disease : it appeared in various parts of my body, but more particularly in my head and throat ; which was so ulcerated and decaying, that every thing I drank immediately issued through my nostrils : and the pain in my head was so violent, as to deprive me of my senses. In May following I was confined to my bed, with violent swellings in my legs and joints ; and for temporary ease, strong mercurials, unctions, and fumigations, the torture of which operations it is impossible to describe, were applied to two ulcers, each as large as the palm of the hand, which had formed themselves upon my forehead, and laid the skull-bone entirely bare and in holes ; and there was great reason to fear the loss of one of my eyes, by the falling in of the socket-bone. In this miserable state I continued until October last, when my jaws were so contracted, that I was in danger of being starved, as it was with difficulty a tea spoon could be got between my teeth ; when I applied to another surgeon of eminence, who undertook to cure me in the course of three weeks ; but, to my sad disappointment, in the beginning of December six of my teeth dropt from their sockets, and

parts

parts of my jaw-bones (which are in my possession) came away ; those parts which, I think, the surgeons call the tonsils and the uvula, were also gone ; and my speech so much affected as scarcely to be understood, when this gentleman declined any further experiments, and recommended me to an hospital. I accordingly applied at St. George's ; and on being examined by Mr. Hawkins, he told me that the wounds in my head were spreading, and that the forehead-bone must come out ; and recommended me to St. Thomas's Hospital. Dreading this operation, the disorder increasing, and without hopes of relief, I had given myself up to despair ; and my situation was so deplorable, that I, as well as my friends, thought it impossible for me to live ;—when, providentially, about the middle of January last, I was recommended to take Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, prepared in Frith-street ; and on the 24th of the same month I began to take it under your direction ;—and, miraculous as it may appear, in the course of six weeks, and by taking only nine bottles of the Syrup, I had the unspeakable happiness to declare myself perfectly cured : my health and strength restored, my wounds all healed, and hardly any traces of them

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left

left behind. And as I think the knowledge of this wonderful Medicine and its effects of the highest importance to the afflicted, I shall at all times take a pleasure in satisfying any person who may think proper to ask me any questions upon the subject :—
I remain, with the greatest respect,

Your most obliged servant,

THOMAS SHAILER.

Little Chelsea,

March 10, 1786.

Witness to the above cure,

JOHN RATCLIFF, } Near the Military Academy,
JAMES SHAILER, } Little Chelsea.
JAMES NAUNTON, at the Goat in Boots, Little
Chelsea.

CASE

C A S E X I.

In a Letter from the Patient.

SIR,

EIGHT years ago I had a Venereal Infection; and was under the care of a gentleman of eminence, near Grosvenor-Square, near eighteen months. I was not cured: I applied to two other gentlemen successively; and in eighteen months more, I was so far from being relieved, that my case evidently grew worse; and having taken great quantities of mercury, I had pains in all my bones, so excruciating, that I became unable to get my bread. In that state I got admission into the Lock Hospital where I continued nine weeks; I came out, as I thought, nearly cured. But in a few weeks the afflicted parts had appearances as alarming as ever. I applied to a surgeon of great fame in Parliament-Street, who told me a phymosis was rapidly bringing on a mor-

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tification.

tification. In the use of poultices and fomentations for six months, at last the skin burst, and gave opportunities of dressing an enormous chancre. The medicines I took at this time flew to my head; and I was frequently afflicted with temporary blindness. My disease appeared so alarming to the surgeon, that I could perceive he wished to get rid of me. I applied to three more in succession; and continued internal medicine, rubbing in mercury, poultices, &c. according to their direction. The last of them, one of the most eminent in England, condemned me to the knife, as the only remedy; which threw me into a state of despondence, and I could not resolve to submit to it. At this time I had no rest, but from opium, and the disorder seemed to be approaching vital parts so rapidly, that my friends gave up all hopes of my life. Having known a young man whose situation had been very desperate from a similar disease: and hearing he was alive, I learnt he had been cured by Velnos' Vegetable Syrup. I happily obtained a recommendation to you, sir, and waited on you in Frith-Street, in May, 1787. I take this opportunity of thankfully acknowledging the great humanity with which you examined

examined my case and undertook my cure. Your wonderful medicine expelled the whole disease ; rendered all the parts left by it perfectly sound, and restored me to a full state of general health, to which I had been a stranger for eight years.

I am, Sir,

Your ever grateful,

And most humble servant,

HENRY SPENCER.

March 10, 1789.

CASE

C A S E X I I .

RICHARD PARRY, lamp-lighter, in the service of Mr. Hayling, in St. James's Market, had the Venereal Disease for nine months. On being admitted into the Lock Hospital, in the spring of 1788, he had a Buboe and a Chancre. Considerable quantities of mercury were rubbed in ; and in two months he was discharged as cured. In a fortnight afterwards, appearances of mortification took place in the glans penis ; and he was readmitted at the Hospital where he remained five months ; in which time the penis was wholly lost ; and the corrosive humor having a tendency to the internal parts, and endangering his life, his mother was ordered to take him from the Hospital ; and she was expressly told, it was impossible he could live many days.

The

The mother came to Frith-Street ; and with tears in her eyes, intreated Mr. Swainson to call and see her son. Mr. Swainson took with him Mr. Mortimer, surgeon, in Frith-Street, and Dr. Smith, a young physician, who was walking the hospitals ; and both were decidedly of opinion, it was impossible to save his life.

Mr. Swainson, however, was not without hopes, and being urged by the intreaties of the mother, he put him on a course of the Syrup ; the mortification was soon stopped ; and in two months he was restored to perfect health.

The poor fellow produces himself with zeal and alacrity, if there be any question concerning his case, or any chance of rescuing others from his fate.

Many gentlemen have had the curiosity to see him, his case being so extraordinary.

CASE

C A S E X I I I .

IN consequence of the success of the Syrup, in the desperate case of Richard Parry, Mr. Hayling, of James's Market, recommended the use of it to Edward Whitaker, who was in his service.

He had been tormented by a Buboe, attended by a discharge from the Urethra, and a considerable inflammation, two years before his application to Mr. Swainson.

After being a year under the care of two gentlemen of the faculty, he was admitted a patient to a dispensary in Aldersgate-Street. The Buboe not appearing disposed to disperse in six weeks, it was cut and continued open four months; in which time he took considerable quantities of bark, and the discharge ceased.

But without any female connection it returned in a few weeks with considerable violence, and continued
when

when he applied in Frith-Street, on the 28th of January, 1789. The disease having long occupied the parts, was not easily expelled; and the patient was not perfectly cured until he had taken near twenty bottles of the medicine.

He was however restored to full health and continues well to this time: for the Syrup is not like mercury which compromised with the disease, and admits its return. A CURE BY THE SYRUP IS DECISIVE AGAINST THE DISEASE: FOR IT NEVER RETURNS.

M

ATTESTED

PRIVATE ATTESTATIONS.

C A S E XIV.

BUBOE.

A GENTLEMAN of high distinction in the literary and philosophic world, extended his experiments for years to the dominions of Venus; and with so little regard to the security or danger of the road, that he thought and boasted of himself as invulnerable. On a visit to London in 1785, he took his usual liberties; but in one of his rencontres, the penis was slightly excoriated. Complaining to his enamorata, in the next interview, she complimented his conformation and vigor; and by his vanity (for philosophers may be sometimes vain) lulled his apprehensions, and stimulated his prowess. The absences of the fond pair were short; and these appeared to be the reasons that the slight injury was
not

not healed. Philosophic imaginations are peculiarly apprehensive of sickness. Whatever he affected with the lady, he could not banish the dread of Venereal injury. On applying to me, I could not pretend to judge between such connoisseurs as the lady and himself; but advised him to take a little Syrup. He declined it; possibly from an apprehension of Mercury; to the use of which he had great objections. He stated the case to an English surgeon; who concurred with his mistress, and encouraged his pursuits: but getting accidentally into company with a German practitioner of his acquaintance, who had not the same complaisance for his amorous descriptions, he told the philosopher bluntly, "when the slight wound closes, you will find Buboës in your groin." The manner in which this was said, made him attribute it to the unpleasant disposition of the surgeon: and he set off for his country residence, in his usual state of mind. He had not been long at home before he perceived heats and irritations, which induced him to write to me for some Syrup; but attributed the symptoms to the sudden and total cessation of his employments with his mistress. I had hardly sent the medicine, when

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I received

I received another letter, indicating the despair of a novice in calamity, and urging with impetuosity the most expeditious conveyance of the Syrup. I soon had a third letter from him, which is among the most curious and valuable in my records. He describes, with great feeling, his condition in bed, at the distance of two hundred miles from London, with a Buboe, which had risen in a few days to the size of his fist; fretting with impatience at the unavoidable delay of a medicine for an evil which seemed too malignant and rapid to be checked in its progress, and which would probably bring on incisions, wounds, and ulcers,—at once, and almost miraculously relieved by the Syrup, and searching for his Buboe, as if stolen from him without his knowledge.

I shall take the liberty of inserting his own description of the situation and cure. His management was so judicious, that it will furnish an useful lesson to those who may be obliged to take the Syrup at a distance from town: an obligation by no means desirable, on account of the injuries to which so delicate a medicine is liable from carriage, negligence in keeping, &c. and the want of those assistances and directions which facilitate its operation.—I am
careful,

careful, however, to conceal the writer's name, and any circumstances that may expose him to malicious ridicule.

December 12, 1785.

DEAR SIR,

My last of the 29th was not gone three hours, when the box, not of Pandora, but of your blessing and Syrup, arrived ; and, as from what I said then, you may easily form an idea of my apprehensions, and of the dismal swelling I complained of, you may now as easily conceive with what kind of sentiments, hope, and expectation, I opened the first bottle, and with what kind of feeling I sit down this instant to thank you for the cure it has almost accomplished before it is finished !

Though I had always a very high opinion of your character and veracity, yet such an easy, pleasing, and almost miraculous cure, would have appeared incredible to me, had I heard of it only by report.

I took the medicine ; and it operated in the following manner :

As the printed general directions for using it left me with a discretionary power to proportion the
doses

doses according to its agreeable or disagreeable effects, I consulted, in the beginning, my apprehensions and the bulk of the swelling, rather than any thing besides. Accordingly I took, not a *spoonful* morning and evening, but a *jelly-glass*,—a stout dose indeed; for, as on account of the bad weather and the worse swelling, I kept within doors and dressed very warm, it threw me into an almost constant perspiration; which was rather troublesome at night, and almost completely deprived me of that rest which my apprehensions and anxiety of mind ever since the beginning of the swelling had made me a stranger to before. This violent perspiration seemed to bring on at night a dryness on the tongue, and an uneasiness, which may be, for aught I know, a symptom of a slight fever. During the three or four first days of the cure, thus began, I had no great prospect that the tumor could be dispelled or resolved by perspiration. The second day it rather increased, and began to extend over the os pubis; but there it stopped, and remained hard and stiff, and painful when pressed upon. There was no fluctuation of matter perceivable by pressure; no pain in any other limb, nor any head-ach or costiveness;

I thought

I thought therefore that I might lessen the troublesome dose with impunity. Thus I brought it down to about three-fourths of a small wine-glass, and had a more gentle perspiration; which I kept up as far as it was in my power, and never wilfully interrupted. On the sixth day I felt the whole surface of the swelling itching and tickling, which I looked upon to be a very promising symptom; and in that I was not mistaken; for without any breaking of the swelling, and without any cutaneous eruption on its surface, it visibly lessened, was gradually dissolved, and is now (the twelfth day of the cure) so far gone, that it can hardly be perceived on the skin, and is not in the least painful when pressed upon; the superficial itching and tickling however still remains on the part, not a fortnight ago so dreadfully swollen; therefore I shall finish the first bottle, and take of the second till even this trifling remembrance of the cured evil shall have been fully evaporated and erased from that part of the skin.

I had no stomach before I began the cure, nor any during the first six days; yet I always ate and drank something, and found no particular aversion *to* or *un-*toward effect *from* my common fare, which is fresh meat,

meat, greens, and ærated water, mixed with wine or brandy. Since the seventh, Sir, I feel the stomach of a shark; and shall just now sit down to a very good dinner, but not without having thanked you for your honest and liberal exertions to rescue this wonderful sudorific from the hands of quacks, and evermore to free it from the reproach of not being in the Dispensary, and unknown to the mercurial, that is, *cruel and thievish* Faculty. In this I vow to God I shall assist you in the best of my power.

Your very obliged grateful

Humble servant.

The event roused his curiosity; and being an excellent chemist, he determined to know, whether the vegetable world could produce a medicinal power equal to the effect with which he had been astonished.—He examined, with great attention, the analysis made at Paris, by order of the Marshal Duke de Biron, by Messrs. Rouelle and la Cassainge, professors of chemistry; an account of which is given in p. 12 of my pamphlet, entitled *Letters to a Friend*. He then tried it by dry and wet processes of his own; compared it with the spurious imitations of Bur-

ROWS,

rows, Hodson, and Baylis ; in all which he discovered Mercury ; but could not find a particle in the original Syrup of De Velnos, prepared by me. He therefore yielded up his scepticism to the evidence of the severest experiments ; acknowledged his conviction to me with strong expressions of gratitude ; and he is among the most zealous and enthusiastic promoters of the credit and interest of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup.

This gentleman has never taken Mercury in any form.

CASE XV.

BUBOE.

A GENTLEMAN of Hammersmith had been under the care of a surgeon for a twelvemonth, for chancres; which were treated in the usual method and apparently healed. According to Mr. Hunter's very profitable doctrine, a *parcel* of the disorder was cured, and the Venereal virus subdued in a *particular part*; which must be deemed considerable success for Mercury in *one year*. The gentleman's affairs were in train for marriage; he was therefore careful of his health; and never risked the possibility of another infection. The happy event had been delayed on account of his indisposition; and, from an opinion of his being cured, the time was appointed in which it was to take place; when, to his astonishment and confusion,

confusion, a Buboe appeared in the left groin. This was within a week after the pretended cure. The Buboe was rapidly proceeding to suppuration, when a friend advised him to apply to me.

I was not at home when he called ; but his anxiety to obtain assistance, induced him to mention his situation to the young man who let him in. The young man said, he knew nothing of the Syrup but its price, and the praises which the people coming there continually bestowed on it. He however had seen a gentleman lately in a similar state, to whom his master ordered a carrot-poultice, and large doses of the Syrup.—The gentleman took with him a book of directions, and some bottles of the Syrup ; and in a few days he did me the pleasure of calling, in the happiest state of mind ; for his unseasonable and dreadful visitant had totally disappeared. He continued the use of the Syrup a few weeks, and was radically cured.

C A S E X V I.

SWOLLEN TESTICLE.

A GENTLEMAN of the army applied in Frith-street, with a recent Gonorrhæa. He entered on a course of the Syrup on the 29th of October, 1784; and on the 6th of November I was sent for in haste. From some circumstances in his constitution, which are not very uncommon, the Syrup had not operated properly; and he had not had a motion for three or four days. The discharge was nearly stopped; but the testicles and spermatic chord were exceedingly swollen, and he was in great pain. I desired three spoonsful of castor oil might be given, and a carrot-poultice applied to the scrotum. The oil operated speedily; and in twenty-four hours the parts were reduced; the Syrup being continued in proper quantities, and having its usual effect of a gentle laxative, the patient was perfectly cured in six weeks. This gentleman had never taken Mercury.

CASE

C A S E X V I I .

PHYMOSIS.

A GENTLEMAN was alarmed'd by the appearance of a Phymosis, a few days after an impure connexion : the glands were exceedingly inflamed ; and he endured excruciating pain. I put him immediately on such a course of the Syrup as I thought suited to his habit ; and a poultice of bread and milk was applied to the parts. In two days the swelling was reduced ; the prepuce removed with great ease, and, to my astonishment, a chancre of an enormous size was discovered, that had nearly made its way to the urethra. This was an instance of the rapid activity of the poison, which I had never witnessed or heard of. The chancre was dress'd with dry lint, and healed in six or seven days. The use of the Syrup was continued for a month ; and the patient perfectly and radically cured.

CASE

C A S E XVIII.

PARAPHYMOSIS.

AN artist of eminence applied, in a most alarming condition, from a Paraphymosis, which threatened immediate mortification. He had two Chancres of unusual magnitude ; the diseased parts had not the least resemblance of any thing human ; and no description of his condition can be conveyed by words. To impress on me an accurate idea of his case, he sent with his first application a drawing of the seat of the disease : and I never advised the Syrup with so little confidence of success. A fomentation of poppy-heads was frequently made use of in the course of the day ; the Chancres were dressed with basilicon ; and the Syrup administered in large doses. This patient had never taken mercury ; and in less than three months he was perfectly cured.

CASE

C A S E XIX.

CHANCRE AND ULCERATED THROAT.

A YOUNG gentleman at a public school in the neighbourhood of London, had a Venereal complaint; for which he applied to the surgeon of the place, who treated him in the usual manner; but did not check the disease; which in a few weeks became so malignant, that the surgeon was alarmed, and prudently sent to his friends. The guardian of the young gentleman took down with him his apothecary, of whose skill and integrity he had very justly a high opinion. The youth was brought to the house of the apothecary, who sent for me; candidly owned the case was too desperate for him, and urged my decided opinion on the power of the Syrup immediately, to check the disease, as no time could be lost. The Chancres on the glans penis were so large
and

and deep that the member would have been lost in a few days; and the throat so dreadfully ulcerated, as to threaten his life.

Under the most skilful treatment of the common practice, this youth would either have perished in a few weeks, or been condemned to languish some years of loathsome wretchedness in what is called the Mercurial Disease.—I undertook the case, confiding in the honour of the apothecary, who is my intimate friend, that no Mercury would be surreptitiously used, as is the general practice by those who are obliged to admit my assistance, and would divide the credit with me. No Mercury was taken in any form. A gargle of the Syrup, diluted with water, was used for the throat; the ulcers were dressed with dry lint; the Syrup given in considerable quantities; and in eight weeks the young gentleman was perfectly cured.

CASE

C A S E X X.

LUES VENEREA AND THE MERCURIAL
DISEASE.

A LADY of Charlotte-street, Portland-place, had a Venereal complaint upwards of five years. The best medical advice in London had not stopped its progress; and she had been pronounced incurable. I was sent for in June 1784. I found her in bed where she had lain a twelve-month. The disorder and method of cure had given her an emaciated and cadaverous appearance; and her excruciating pains rendered necessary the daily use of large doses of opium. Ulcers in the mouth and throat, and the loss of two or three bones from the nose, seemed to be omens of her dissolution, and obliged her to apply to me. She was put on a course of the Syrup; in a fortnight she took an airing in a carriage an hour or two in the middle of the day; and in a few weeks was restored to perfect health.

O

CASE

C A S E X X I.

CARIES OF THE SHIN-BONE.

A GENTLEMAN's gardener, near Kenfington, applied with a Caries of the shin-bone, from an old Venereal infection. He had been told by his master's surgeon, he could be relieved only by the knife. A surgeon of eminence chanced to be with me when the poor fellow called ; he was clearly of opinion no cure could be effected without taking out the bone, and laughed at the idea of giving him the Syrup.—As the man was averse to the operation, and the surgeon thought the delay of a few weeks would be no injury, I determined to try the effect of a few bottles ; and, wonderful as it may appear,—the bone exfoliated ; and in a month he was perfectly found and well !—This patient had dreadful pains in his limbs ; but whether they were venereal, mercurial, or rheumatic, I had no interest to enquire ;
for

for the Syrup did not, like Mercury*, take the symptoms singly, and while it dissipated some, suffered others to prevail; but all the symptoms vanished with the disease. In this respect the Syrup is not so friendly to the profits of its Proprietor as mercury is to the faculty; and, on this account, it is to be expected the faculty will in general prefer Mercury to the Vegetable Syrup.

* See Hunter's Treatise.

C A S E XXII.

To Mr. SWAINSON.

SIR,

AFTER reading in the papers of the many cures your Vegetable Syrup had made in Venereal and Scorbutic cafes, I was happy to obtain a bottle or two for my wife, whom I had innocently injured as soon as married; being, as I thought, well of a complaint which had hung on me a considerable time, and confirmed in my opinion of being well by Dr. Yale, who assured me I was safe, but it proved otherwise—and my wife and self grew both bad. In four years I recovered by going through a long and painful course of destructive mercurials. My wife grew nervous from the use of them, and both complaints she laboured with for about five years. I petitioned you, Sir, to let me have a bottle of your Syrup, and, in great goodness and humanity, you favoured

favoured me with six or seven, which every day gave strength to my wife, who was then seven months gone with child. It gave her an appetite which had been long lost; and before her labour came on she was as well and in as perfect health as ever she was in her life, and all owing to the virtue of your excellent Syrup; and if it will give satisfaction to any one, she is ready to give her oath of the same: but wishes to keep her name and character as clear from public censure and shame as possible, therefore can only appear when privately applied to or sent for, which she is ready to do at all times, and acknowledge her sense of gratitude for your goodness in saving her and her infant's life, who are now both in exceeding good health.

Russel-street, June, 1789.

CASE

C A S E XXIII.

VENEREAL ERUPTIONS.

A GENTLEMAN in the city had, for several months, dreadful symptoms of the Venereal Disease. He had several chancres ; one remarkably large on the glans penis, and ulcers on different parts of his body. He had pains in the head and limbs, and was much reduced : but the peculiarity of his case was, that his face wore the appearances of the first stage of the small-pox. Mr. Hunter attributes appearances of this kind to an operation of the Venereal Disease, in calling out constitutional dispositions, which Mercury renders mortal. But in my treatment it had only the effect of a symptom : the patient entered on a course of the Syrup in September 1785 ; and in a few weeks he was completely cured, of his chancres, ulcers, and the appearances in his face.

WHETHER

REMARKS.

WHETHER the little auxiliaries I have made use of, on various occasions, are of advantage or not, I will not pretend to determine. It is probable the Syrup would have effected my purposes, at all times, without any such aid : but, I believe, every practitioner will allow them to be harmless ; and if they in the least expedite the cure ; if they alleviate pain, or innocently amuse the anxious imagination of the sufferer, I should think myself culpable in not advising them. I mention them for the benefit of those who cannot have recourse to me ; for I am perfectly satisfied with the possession of *one secret*.

I have taken a liberty, in the present edition, which is not allowed the possessors of *Nostrums* ; for a very good reason, that their veracity is questionable.

tionable. No man can have a more detestable opinion of quack-doctors than myself. I know, the medicines they vend are generally of the most violent and pernicious kind. Since my purchase of De Velnos' Recipe, they have swarmed around me, like beasts of prey ; and observing my determination to decline *spurious degrees*, and the artifices of an empiric, they have attributed to simplicity, what I hope will appear the effect of judgment, integrity, and honour. Some of them have had recourse to perjury, forgery,—and every species of fraud and villainy, TO INVADE MY PROPERTY, and impose on the ignorant and credulous, wretched decoctions, poisoned with corrosive sublimate, for the Vegetable Syrup of De Velnos. But the inefficacy of their preparations confines their mischievous proceedings to obscure towns and villages in the country. I have held them up, and I suppose I must occasionally suspend them, to the abhorrence of this town.

I hope the objection to this pernicious class of beings will not extend to me. I conscientiously prepare, according to the Original Recipe, a Medicine truly Vegetable, as the slightest knowledge of chemistry may ascertain ; and of extensive and established

ed reputation. It is, beyond all others, effectual in Venereal, Scrophulous, and Scorbutic Disorders. The private attestations of its success are innumerable, and among the first and most respectable orders of society. But attestations of cases for publication, from a species of false shame, are not to be obtained in those disorders; and those of a lower kind are often liable to suspicion. This is the reason that regular Physicians and Surgeons publish their cases without names; and the credit afforded them is in proportion to the opinion of their characters. I am content to abide by this test; and there are few Physicians or Surgeons at this time, better or more extensively known than myself. Cases have also an internal evidence, which the most skilful fabulist could not imitate in a great and interesting variety.

I am satisfied no man who knows me will doubt a word I insert; and I must take my chance with those who do not know me, and who may confound my Publications with those which Burrows, Hodson, Baylis, &c. either invent or purloin from mine.

THE END.

